

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04

ITC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 XMB-04 /083 W

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P 131500Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9296

UNCLAS AMMAN 5290

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, JO

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ABOUT BOYCOTTING COUNTRIES FOR PURPOSES OF
TAX REFORM ACT

REF: STATE 250007

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION RESPONDS TO QUESTIONS POSED IN PARAGRAPH
#5 OF REFTEL. ALPHABETICAL/ NUMERICA CODING BELOW CORRESPONDS
TO THAT OF REFTEL:

(A) AS MATTER OF POLICY JORDAN ADHERES STRICTLY TO BOYCOTT
LIST MAINTAINED BY CENTRAL BOYCOTT COMMITTEE DAMASCUS. TO
EXTENT THAT INDIVIDUALS AND FIRMS ARE BLACKLISTED BY COMMITTEE
ON GROUNDS INCLUDED IN PARAGRAPH 3 (A) THROUGH (E) OF REFTEL,
JORDAN IMPLICITLY REQUIRES FIRMS DOING BUSINESS IN JORDAN TO
REFRAIN FROM SUCH CONDUCT.

(B) (1) JORDAN BOYCOTTS ONLY ISRAEL. BOYCOTT IS ENFORCED THROUGH
LANGUAGE INCLUDED IN GOJ TENDER DOCUMENTS (AMMAN 190), DOCUMENTARY
REQUIREMENTS ON LETTERS OF CREDIT (75 AMMAN 9215) AND BROADLY
THROUGH "THE UNIFIED LAW OF THE BOCYOTT OF ISRAEL, LAW NO. 10
OF 1958." THIS LEGILATION PORHIBITS DIRECT TRADE OF ANY KIND
BETWEEN JORDAN AND ISRAEL. JORDAN'S ADHERENCE TO COMMITTEE LIST
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RESULTS FROM STATE OF WAR EXISTING BETWEEN ISRAEL AND JORDAN.

JORDAN, TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, HAS NO OFFICIAL OR UNOFFICIAL POLICY
OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ANY RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS GROUP. AT SAME
TIME WE DOUBT THAT GOJ HAS CAPACITY OR INTEREST IN DETERMINING
WHY INDIVIDUAL FIRMS APPEAR OR DO NOT APPEAR ON ARAB CENTRAL BOYCOTT
LIST SINCE GOJ ACCEPTS DECISION OF CENTRAL BOYCOTT COMMITTEE AS
TO WHICH FIRMS APPEAR ON BLACKLIST. GOJ DOES NOT TAKE LEAD
ON ANY BOYCOTT RELATED MATTERS. AS MATTER OF POLITICAL NECESSITY
IT FOLLOWS POLICY OF ACCEPTING CONSENSUS OF IMPORTANT ARAB NEIGHBORS
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(B) (2) UNIFIED LAW OF BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL DEALS MAINLY WITH BOYCOTTS
DESCRIBED IN 4(B) AND 4(C). ARTICLE 2, PARAGRAPH (B) PROVIDES,
"IT SHALL BE PROHIBITED TO EXPORT GOODS, COMMODITIES, OTHER PRODUCTS
OF ALL KINDS, FISCAL VALUABLES AND OTHER MOVABLES OF VALUE FROM
JORDAN TO ISRAEL ..." ARTICLE 3, PARAGRAPH (A) OF SAME LAW PROVIDES,
"IT SHALL BE PROHIBITED TO BRING IN, EXCHANGE OR TRADE IN JORDAN
WITH ISRAELI GOODS, COMMODITIES AND PRODUCTS OF ALL KINDS INCLUDING
FISCAL VALUABLES AND OTHER MOVABLES OF VALUE."

(B) (3) WE BELIEVE THAT TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, BOYCOTT OF FIRMS ON
ARAB BLACKLIST IS ENFORCED; HOWEVER, GOJ MAY DETERMINE ON
EXCEPTIONAL BASIS THAT NATIONAL INTEREST REQUIRES CONDUCT OF BUSINESS
WITH BOYCOTTED FIRM ON SINGLE AND PARTICULAR TRANSACTION.

(B) (4) AS STATED ABOVE, JORDAN APPLIES BOYCOTT LIST MAINTAINED
BY CENTRAL BOYCOTT COMMITTEE RESIDENT IN DAMASCUS, WHICH IS ENFORCED
UNIFORMLY EXCEPT IN EXCEPTIONAL CASES NOTED IN (B) (3) ABOVE.

(B) (5) LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR JORDANIAN MAINTENANCE OF BOYCOTT
AGAINST ISRAEL IS ABOVE CITED LAW NO. 10 OF 1958 (COPY BEING
FOURNISHED TO DEPARTMENT).
PICKERING

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW, BOYCOTTS, TAX REFORMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976AMMAN05290
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760384-1083
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761059/aaaabynh.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION TRSE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 250007
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ullricre
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAY 2004 by DuboseBM>; APPROVED <21 DEC 2004 by ullricre>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INFORMATION ABOUT BOYCOTTING COUNTRIES FOR PURPOSES OF TAX REFORM ACT
TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, JO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006